

Kingston Guardian

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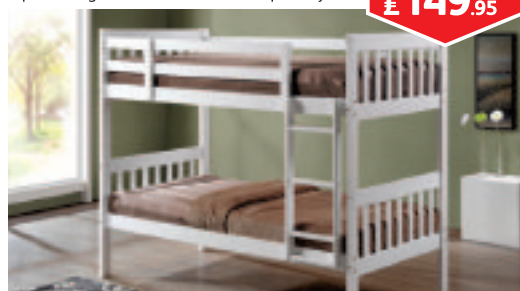
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'Ignored' by the authorities: Colin Edwards died in March



Tributes: Flowers were laid at the scene in memory of Mr Edwards

Homeless man set fire to himself when cigarette ignited sleeping bag

BURNED IN STREET

REPORTER

JON MITCHELL

jonathan.mitchell@london.newsquest.co.uk



A homeless man who ran out into a New Malden street on fire before collapsing in front of people died after his cigarette set fire to his sleeping bag as he slept.

Colin Edwards, 51, who was originally from Surbiton, was found outside the empty office building Clear House, in Kingston Road, with 50 per cent burns to his upper body in the early hours of Friday, March 6, this year.

He had accidentally fallen asleep in a nearby car park after lighting a cigarette, an inquest into his death at West London Coroner's Court heard on Monday, December 14.

The inquest also heard lighter fluid had spilled on to his clothes sparking the fire that spread to his body as he desperately tried to roll over and extinguish the flames.

He died of his injuries three days later at a specialist burns unit in Broomfield Hospital in Essex on Monday, March 9.

Reading a statement from Sergeant Harvey, Coroner Chinyere Inyama said: "He woke in the middle of the night to find his sleeping bag smouldering."

"He started to roll around to extinguish the smoke, but while



Horror: Investigators near the spot where Mr Edwards collapsed

doing so apparently a small pocket lighter had broken causing the fluid to escape, which caught fire.

"He then ran out into Kingston Road and seemed to collapse in front of the footpath. Members of the public tried to assist in extinguishing the flames."

The inquest also heard Mr Edwards was an on-off drug user who used heroin and crack cocaine - with his behaviour becoming increasingly erratic in the

year before his death.

Mr Inyama added: "He had a history of schizo-affective disorder and drug use."

"He was way more chaotic in his behaviour. He was jumping out in front of moving vehicles and threatening aggression to others as well."

Mr Edwards was known to members of St Peter's Church in Norbiton, and had previously stayed at the YMCA in Surbiton.

At the time of his death friends

claimed that Mr Edwards' mental health problems were ignored by the authorities and that "no one wanted to help him".

School friend John Ridley had said: "He was put on a shelf to rot. That's why he got into this mess. I saw him a couple of weeks ago and he said 'They won't house me, they won't come near me'."

"He should have been in cared accommodation or sheltered accommodation."

In April Kingston Council and South West London and St George's Mental Health Trust, which runs Tolworth Hospital, launched an investigation into the death.

At the time a spokesman acting for Kingston Council and South West London and St George's Mental Health Trust, said: "The council and South West London and St George's Mental Health NHS Trust extend our deepest sympathies to family and friends at this distressing time."

"As with all cases of this nature, the trust will conduct an investigation into the case and will be liaising with other agencies, including Kingston's housing team to conclude."

The Kingston Guardian has asked about the progress of this investigation announced more than seven months ago.

The inquest concluded Mr Edwards died an accidental death.



Homeless Colin Edwards had been sleeping rough near offices in Kingston Road

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Surrey Comet Couple's dream wedding plan ruined by sale of golf club land

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► Al Snow's wrestling school launches



REPORTER

ISABELLE GERRESTSEN

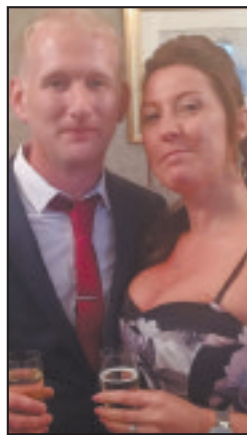
newsdesk@surreycomet.co.uk

A couple were forced to cancel their "dream wedding" after the plush Chessington venue booked for the reception closed down unexpectedly.

Lorry driver Darren Palmer and fiancée Lisa Schettino spent 18 months planning their dream June wedding at Chessington Golf Centre only to be told the big day was cancelled after the land was sold to a housing developer.

In November our sister paper the Surrey Comet revealed developers were eyeing up the greenbelt land for a 700-home development including a football pitch, swimming pool and leisure centre at the Garrison Lane site.

Despite no formal plans being submitted to Kingston



Let down: Darren Palmer and fiancée Lisa Schettino

Council the golf club closed for good on November 29.

Mr Palmer said: "It's a

massive blow. They've ruined our wedding. We now have to find a venue to match for a Saturday in June and we're completely stuck.

"We spent £250 on the wedding invites and sent them out weeks ago. We've had to tell our friends and family to ignore them as the wedding might not go ahead."

The Wallington couple met three years ago and Mr Palmer proposed on holiday in Tenerife in June 2014.

They had paid a £2,000 deposit to secure the summer date at the beginning of the year and their entire wedding package cost £5,000 for the venue, flowers, food and drink.

The couple's nine children and four grandchildren from previous relationships were all set to attend the wedding for 86 guests.

Mr Palmer added: "The only

suitable venues we can still book are £10,000 and miles away. Lisa is now working 15-hour days so that we can still afford the wedding.

"They sat on our money for months. Something that big doesn't shut down in a month. They knew they were selling the centre and they still took bookings."

Miss Schettino, 42, works as a dementia carer and has Crohn's disease.

She claims she was so stressed about the cancellation her health deteriorated, forcing her to be admitted to hospital for 12 days.

Miss Schettino said: "When Darren told me about the cancellation I was heartbroken."

"The date and venue we had chosen meant everything to me. I feel totally let down by the club and feel they weren't even that bothered about it."

"We feel we're now back to

square one, with no clue as to what we do now."

Chessington South Councilor Patricia Bamford said: "They have badly let people down who booked the venue in good faith. I hope the disappointed couple receive compensation from the new owners for the massive inconvenience to them."

A Kingston Council spokesman said: "As the council does not own the Chessington Golf Centre we currently do not know if it has been sold."

"We are, however, currently trying to find out if the couple has been in touch with our trading standards department and if so, what advice they have been given."

"If they do get in touch with us we will give them all the helpful advice to help them resolve this issue."

Chessington Golf Centre was unavailable for comment.

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HIT-AND-RUN: A pensioner left fighting for her life after a hit-and-run in New Malden is now in a stable condition and recovering in hospital. The woman, in her 70s, was found at the Burlington Road junction with Belmont Avenue at 1pm on Wednesday, December 9 having been hit by a car. Paramedics attended and took the woman to a west London hospital where she was treated for life-threatening injuries. The hit-and-run was the second in Kingston within a week. A spokeswoman for the Metropolitan Police said the woman was now in a stable condition. A man was arrested on suspicion of dangerous driving soon after the crash. He has been bailed until the end of January.

GAS DEATH: A man in his 20s died and a block of flats near Kingston town centre was evacuated after a suspected toxic gas leak. Police, ambulance and fire crews were called to Fairfax House in Livesey Close just after 8am on Monday, December 14. A spokesman for the Metropolitan Police initially said the death, just off Villiers Road, was being treated as unexplained, but CID have since declared the death "non suspicious". A Met Police spokesman said: "A man in his 20s was pronounced dead at the scene. The surrounding area was evacuated due to the possible presence of a noxious gas." In a rush to get to the scene a police van crashed into a car knocking off the wing mirror in nearby Winery Lane.

● The Mind charity promotes the views and needs of people with mental health problems. Its helpline number is 03001 233 393. To get in touch with the Samaritans in Kingston day or night call 116 123 or text 07725 909 090 or email jo@samaritans.org. Samaritans lend a confidential ear to those in distress.

Dons move leaves Ks searching

REPORTER
JON MITCHELL

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london.newsquest.co.uk

Kingstonian's worst fears were realised as plans for AFC Wimbledon to move out of Kingsmeadow and build a new stadium in Merton were approved.

This leaves Ks with the task of finding a new ground within the next two years.

A Merton Council planning committee last Thursday voted unanimously at Merton's civic centre to build a 12,000-seater stadium in the Dons' traditional home of Plough Lane – possibly for the start of the 2017 season.

AFC Wimbledon are now free to sell the lease for Kingsmeadow – the ground they have shared with Kingstonian since 2003 – and Ks must now find a new ground.

While the move has been met with excitement from Dons' fans, Kingstonian's followers are growing increasingly concerned for the club's future in the borough.

Kingston councillor and Kingstonian fan Jon Tolley said: "I think the best analogy is you can't make an omelette without breaking eggs."

"It's brilliant news for AFC Wimbledon, but what happens to Kingstonian now?"

"There is talk about developing in the borough, but as a



AFC Wimbledon hopes: Artist's impression of the planned new stadium in Merton

Kingstonian fan I want Ks to play in Kingston, and that looks impossible now.

"I just wish that there was some recognition that the thing that has happened to Kingston is sad."

The Dons Trust, the supporters group that owns AFC Wimbledon, voted 99 per cent in favour of selling the lease for Kingsmeadow at a meeting at the ground last month. Premier League champions

Chelsea are expected to buy the lease to use the ground for the use of their women's and youth teams.

Kingstonian have used the ground since 1989.

Mr Tolley added: "It's a tragedy, a real shame that Kingston won't have a football club apart from Chelsea ladies."

"I'm 100 per cent convinced that Chelsea have no interest in the ladies team [on buying

Kingsmeadow] and just want to have influence in south-west London. People are going to be bombarded with Chelsea propaganda."

"I just don't buy that Chelsea ladies and youth are more important. It's the money that is."

Kingstonian fan Jamie Cutleridge said: "I think Kingstonian always thought they would end up with Kingsmeadow."

"The fact that Chelsea came in changed everything."

"I'm surprised it went through. I think it was always going to happen at some point."

"We're not going to have our own ground by then so there is going to be some ground sharing, the longer we ground share the less we can afford."

Kingstonian were unavailable for comment.

Robbery at knifepoint

Chip shop workers were robbed at knifepoint before money was taken from the till.

Two men used a knife and a hammer to threaten staff at Mr Chips in Hook.

Kingston police are now looking for two men who "stole a significant amount of money" at about 10pm on Saturday, December 12.

No one was injured during the robbery, but the wife of the Hook Road shop manager posted in Facebook group Red Alert that staff were "very shaken", and asked people to

visit the chip shop to show support.

One of the men was described as white, 6ft, in his early 20s, of a thin build, and wearing a black and white hooded top. He was said to have been holding a knife and hammer. The second man was described as white, 5ft 8in, tall and of stocky build. He is believed to be his late teens, English speaking and was wearing a red hooded top.

Call 101 quoting 0412055/15 or call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



Mr Chips: Police rush to the scene



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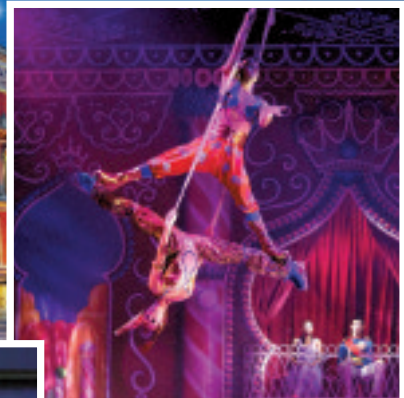


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The production has been specially redesigned for this magnificent London venue.

Tchaikovsky's gorgeous score is played by a live orchestra against a backdrop of state-of-the-art colourful projections, opulent costumes, magic tricks and special effects in a one of a kind production of this festive favourite.

The Royal Albert Hall is the only venue in the world where a live 24-piece orchestra will accompany the Imperial Ice Stars' performance. The music soars while a cast of Olympic, World, European and National Championship level skaters combine sublime ice dancing with breath-taking high speed leaps, heart-stopping throws and awe-inspiring acrobatics to make ***The Nutcracker on Ice*** an incredible performance that will excite and enchant all ages.

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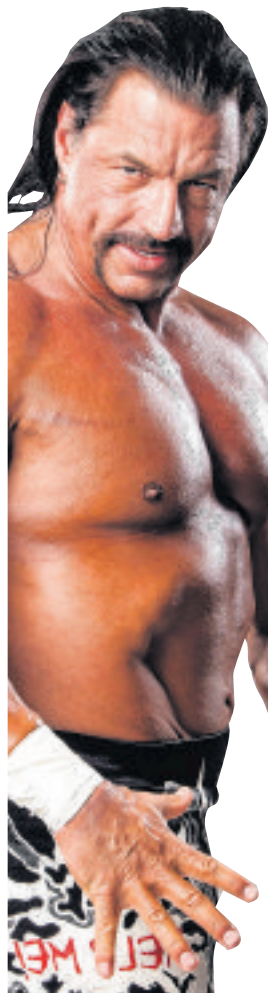
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Learning your way around ring

REPORTER

RACHAEL BURFORD

rachael.burford@london.newsquest.co.uk



One of the world's most famous American entertainment wrestling stars has chosen to open a first-of-its-kind academy – in New Malden.

Al Snow, pictured left, who portrays a schizophrenic brandishing a severed mannequin head in the ring, has set up a wrestling school with business partner and fellow wrestler Simon Van Der Wolf.

The Al Snow Wrestling Academy launched on December 14 in Hampton Court, with a view to opening full time in a secret 5,000sq ft location in New Malden in February 2016.

But the men and women who want to learn at the illustrious new school must be ready to work hard and pass a rigorous entrance exam.

With most male entertainment wrestlers being at least 6ft 2in and weighing more than 240lb, Mr Van Der Wolf has insisted it is "not going to be easy" getting in.

He said: "People who might be tall, but only weigh a few stone, are going to have to realise this might not be for them right now."

"We will be following a university-style syllabus and the training will be tough. When we get hit by a chair, we get hit by a chair."

"We want to encourage women to try out too. There are really tough women out there."

Exams to get into the new school are due to be held in the New Year for beginner, intermediate and advanced level pupils.

Mr Snow, real name Allen Ray Sarven, splits his time between the States and Mr Van Der Wolf's house in Weybridge, where the pair first came up with the unique academy idea.



Launch event: Al Snow showing his ring skills

"We decided that nothing like this existed and it should," said Mr Van Der Wolf.

"There will be the chance for our best pupils to become professional wrestlers and go on tour."

"Wrestling is more than just getting smacked in the face. It's about working the crowd. We will be teaching people how to do that."

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FINALLY- Straight talk About Sciatica

Are you suffering from back pain or sciatica? Then it's likely your biggest problem is pain. But there's another major problem: bad information.

To end sciatica misery you must have the right information. Pay close attention because I'm going to dispel sciatica myths and give you the facts.

MYTH: Sciatica will just "go away" with some rest.

FACT: If you are dealing with back pain, buttock pain or leg pain, then you must seek help from a sciatica specialist immediately. Left untreated, sciatica can lead to permanent nerve damage - and lifelong pain.

MYTH: Pain is the only problem associated with sciatica.

FACT: In severe cases, sciatica can lead to the inability to control your bowels or bladder - leading to embarrassing situations.

MYTH: You must take pain medications to deal

FACT: Drugs like muscle relaxants, pain killers, narcotics, antidepressants, and anti-seizure medications have serious potential side-effects and do not cure the root cause of sciatica.

MYTH: "I must have done something wrong to get sciatica."

FACT: Physical work or simply sitting at a desk for long periods can lead to sciatica. Accidents and trauma can also be the culprits. Pregnancy can cause sciatica. Sciatica can affect anyone - including super-fit celebrities like Tiger Woods, Sylvester Stallone, and British Olympic medalist Ian Wynne.

MYTH: Stop exercising and get several weeks of bed rest to overcome sciatica.

FACT: Staying active can help to relieve sciatic pain and prevent the pain getting worse. Staying inactive in bed could be the worst advice - based on a recent study in the Netherlands.

MYTH: Sciatica requires surgery.

FACT: NO! There's been a huge breakthrough in the treatment of sciatica and lower back pain. It's a new procedure called Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care. The excellent results from this treatment have been published in major medical journals. Success rates are up to 90%.

MYTH: "There's nothing anyone can really do. I'm just stuck with this for the rest of my life."

FACT: With the correct treatment from a healthcare professional who specialises in sciatica, you can find relief from the core cause - and the symptoms.

MYTH: Getting Sciatica properly diagnosed is expensive.

FACT: Not true. The Hälsa East Molesey Family Centre of Wellness is currently offering an initial consultation with one of their Sciatica specialists for **JUST £30**.

Quinton Hohls and Robert Viney are the Hälsa sciatica experts consulting at the East Molesey Family Centre of Wellness. The Hälsa group has helped over 200,000 patients, many finding relief from the debilitating pain and loss of function from sciatica. The East Molesey clinic is one of the first in the UK to implement the non-surgical re-constructive spinal care treatment.

This procedure does not require a hospital stay and in most cases you'll be able to continue with your normal daily activities with little interruption. The focus is on

finding - and correcting - the original cause of the back pain and sciatica.

According to Hohls and Viney, "We use a combination of advanced technology, not found elsewhere in the region, for precisely diagnosing the cause of your low back pain and sciatica. This means superior long-term results for most people."

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"I have needed treatment over the last few months for sciatica and I am most grateful for Hälsa's excellent care. They have been kind, understanding and conscientious, never giving less than 100%. It has been a long haul that is not completely over yet, but with Hälsa's help I am starting to return to sport and cannot thank them enough for their exemplary treatment."

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Bar is back

One of Kingston's last remaining music venues re-opened this month after almost a year undergoing a revamp.

The Grey Horse in Richmond Road saw its first live performance from folk band Ma Polaine's Great Decline on December 6.

Despite some live performances, the pub will be following more of a gastro pub route under new owners.

Campaigners fight parking move

REPORTER

JON MITCHELL

jonathan.mitchell@london.newsquest.co.uk



The moving of nine disabled parking spaces outside Memorial Gardens has led to fears about accessibility in Kingston town centre from disability campaigners.

Kingston Council has launched a public consultation into plans to pedestrianise the square by the

Accessorize shop to help create an access route from Clarence Street and the Ancient Market Place.

The nine disabled parking bays that currently make up the square will be relocated if the plans go ahead.

They would be moved to Lady Booth Road, Union Street and Dolphin Road, where there are currently pay-and-display bays.

Sue Thomas, 61, of Mill Street, uses the bays to take her disabled mother into Kingston.

She said: "I'm just worried by the geography of it. My mother broke her hip so she can't do long distances. It's a serious concern."

"I regularly deliver my mother to the bank and she's 86 and disabled and [there is] no



Facing relocation: Disabled bays

way she can walk from where I drop her.

"The quality of her life would be so different. It's just not right."

"We have to make sure we look after the vulnerable."

Access for loading will be maintained from 6am to 10am and 4pm to 6pm on Monday to Saturday,

with no access on Sunday.

Arrangements will also be made for users of All Saints Church to have vehicular access to their own car park in Memorial Square.

Councillor Hugh Scantlebury, chairman of the Kingston town neighbourhood committee, said: "It simply doesn't make sense to have cars manoeuvring and parking in such a high footfall area."

"The parking spaces do create a barrier, discouraging people from fully exploring the town centre."

"We have met with Kingston Centre for Independent Living (KCIL) to ensure that the proposals meet with its expectations, and am happy to report that it is satisfied that the spaces are equally accessible for service users."

KCIL declined a chance to comment on the plans when contacted by the Kingston Guardian.



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No free rubbish removal plan for disabled

A disabled Kingston resident has expressed outrage over the council's decision not to introduce a free rubbish removal service for people with disabilities.

Louis Sheldon-Williams, 62, suffers from severe spinal myelopathy that means he has great difficulty walking.

He has been campaigning for six years for a free collection service of large waste items, such as unwanted furniture, for disabled

people on income support.

He said: "I lived in Kew Gardens and Hackney before moving to Kingston. In both these boroughs the council offered this service."

"If you're disabled you are unable to lift heavy items such as freezers and beds."

"When I wanted to get rid of an old mattress, the council charged me £30."

"I got a friend to help me. Many disabled people can't rely on this

support and live in squalor."

Council leader Councillor Kevin Davis said a free service would not be introduced.

He said: "There is no direct correlation between disability and the ability to pay."

"Were the council to introduce a blanket scheme of free waste collections for disabled people it is inevitable that we would be collecting waste from those perfectly able to pay for the service."

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How to apply?

For more information or to request an information pack please contact Clare Thomas – clare.thomas@swlondon.nhs.uk or phone 0203 458 5231.

Deadline for applications will be 5pm on Friday 8th January 2016

*Surrey Downs - (covers the boroughs of: Epsom and Ewell and Mole Valley, East Elmbridge and Banstead and the surrounding villages).

RICHEST ROADS: Two Kingston streets are among the top 50 most expensive places to buy a house in the UK. Coombe Hill Road came in at number 24 on the list compiled by Lloyds bank with the average home costing almost £3m. Warren Road, also in Coombe Hill, is not far behind with the average house price being £2.22m.

STORE RE-OPENS:

A town centre supermarket has re-opened after an extensive two-month refurbishment to remove rumoured asbestos. Sainsbury's in Eden Walk, Kingston, closed on October 24 and reopened on Wednesday, December 9.

TOP TABLE: A Surbiton restaurant has been named one of the best in the country. The French Table, in Maple Road, came in at no 9 on upmarket table reservation service Open Table's list of the 100 best restaurants in the country. Open Table reviewers described the family-run restaurant as "warm and welcoming". The Ledbury in Notting Hill took the no 1 spot.

VIBE IS ON
PAGES 13 & 14

Huge council pay-off

REPORTER

RACHAEL BURFORD

rachael.burford@london.newsquest.co.uk



The chief executive of Kingston Council will receive more than £250,000 after being "asked to resign".

Bruce McDonald, who had been chief executive for 15 years, was "asked to leave" by council leader Kevin Davis, according to Liberal Democrat councillors.

Mr McDonald's resignation was announced on November 27. He was gone the same day.

Mr McDonald will receive a £267,512 lump sum pay-out, which includes his notice period pay, plus his pension, equivalent to half his £178,341 annual salary.

As part of the settlement Mr McDonald has signed a non-disclosure agreement - meaning he cannot talk to the press about his reasons for leaving.

Kingston Liberal Democrat leader Liz Green said: "If he resigned, why is there a pay out?"

"I am not necessarily surprised about the amount because I know how much these things can cost."

"But this is an awful lot of money, especially when the council are making the cuts they are."

"Kevin [Davis] has told me he requested that [Bruce] leave and there was an agreement."

Coun Davis denied there had been any falling out between Mr

McDonald and himself and claimed any apparent secrecy was simply due to a non-disclosure agreement he is bound by.

He said: "That is rubbish [that we have fallen out]. I have known Bruce for many years. I cannot say much because I am legally bound."

"What I wanted was to get everything I absolutely could into the public domain, which is why we have released the figures."

"In January, we will be starting a recruitment process [for the chief executive job] then it will become clearer."

"The recruitment process will also start at the same time the draft budget comes out."

Coun Green was not the only person to question Mr McDonald's large pay out, which seems to be in contradiction to previous Conservative ideals.

In 2012, then-Communities and Local Government Secretary Eric Pickles

said senior council executives should not be entitled to "golden good-byes".

He unveiled new powers to remove employment protection

Go on:
Bruce McDonald



for senior civil servants that would supposedly put an end to council executives receiving six-figure payoffs and then moving into new public sector jobs.

In July, redundancy payments for civil servants were capped at £95,000. Mr McDonald resigned from his post.

Jonathan Isaby, chief executive of the TaxPayers' Alliance and Kingston resident, said: "This is an extraordinary sum of taxpayers' money for yet another bloated public sector golden goodbye."

"On top of massive salaries, the top brass at local authorities can expect to see redundancy or resignation packages

that are far more generous than many workers in the private sector can ever expect to receive."

"Taxpayers do not want to see their hard-earned cash funding executive

pay-offs at a time when they are seeing their essential services come under threat."

Kevin Davis issues denial of Parliament run rumours

Kingston Council leader Kevin Davis has denied rumours he will make a bid for a parliamentary seat next year.

There has been much speculation over whether the Conservative leader will attempt to run for the Richmond Park and North Kingston seat that might become vacant should Zac Goldsmith win the London Mayor election in May.

Coun Davis has previously run for parliament in

Kingston and Surbiton, where he was beaten by Liberal Democrat MP Edward Davey, and in Yeovil, where he lost to Lib Dem David Laws in 2010.

He said: "Where are you hearing these rumours?"

"No matter what I say, people are still going to speculate I suppose. I can honestly say I have not thought about it. I am happy in my job at the moment and have a lot of things still to achieve at Kingston Council."



Speculation:
Kevin Davis

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POST: Kingston Guardian, 10th floor, Quadrant House, The Quadrant, Sutton SM2 5AS
 (Please include your name and address.)

Letters may be edited for space, clarity and legal reasons.

ONLINE OPINION

Comment on stories at
kingstonguardian.co.uk

Former Kingston Council chief executive Bruce McDonald to get more than £250,000 payout for 'resigning'

It is the lack of transparency that is a complete disgrace – the main protagonists are conveniently bound by NDAs.

As taxpayers, we should be able to see exactly why this payment was made and how it is calculated. It is bad enough when this happens in the private sector, but much worse in cases like this.

How we can be talking about severe cuts on one hand and unbridled and unexplained excess on the other is baffling.

DB

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It is essential your email or letter is headed "Complaint" in the subject line and contains the following information:

- Your name, email address, postal address and daytime telephone number.
- The newspaper title or website, preferably a copy of the story or at least the date, page number or website address of the article and any headline.
- A full explanation of your complaint by reference to the Editors' Code.

If you do not provide any of the information above this may delay or prevent us dealing with your complaint. Your personal details will only be used for administration purposes.

If we cannot reach a resolution between us then you can contact IPSO by email at complaints@ipso.co.uk or by post at IPSO, c/o Halton House, 20-23 Holborn, London EC1N 2JD.

If complaining about third party comments on our website articles, you should use the "report this post" function online next to the comment.

Borough view



Simon Jakeman sent us this picture of winter sunshine over Tolworth Court Farm. To see your photo in Borough View email it, along with details of where you took it, to rachael.burford@london.newsquest.co.uk.

Stop plans for this huge blocks of flats

The latest attack on the heart of Kingston is being waged by developer British Land and financier Deloitte.

British Land is proposing to redevelop Eden Walk, which includes the sites of British Home Stores, Millennium House, Boots, Sainsbury's, Heals and Neville Yard. This is an enormous area and the proposed buildings are on a giant scale never before seen in Kingston.

The driving force is, of course, profit. That is to be expected, profit is the purpose in life of developers and financiers. But this profit should not be made at the expense of the town, destroying its scale and texture and overwhelming the existing buildings. The scheme provides no benefit for residents.

More than 300 flats are proposed, but there will be no affordable housing, there will be no

payment towards schools or any community infrastructure, nothing is given all is taken.

The developer says it has been "transparent" and that anyone can see the information. The way the information is lost in the mass of images on the planning application means few members of the public can have any idea of what is proposed. It says it has "consulted", but the images shown at the consultations were partial.

To get an idea of the scale of the development, take one corner: the back of British Home Stores on to Eden Street. It is not attractive, but its scale fits that of the listed old post office and the United Reformed Church. The proposal is to build three massive blocks of flats rising to between 14 and 16 storeys.

Each is taller than Premier Inn, the great concrete block that faces the Cattle Market.

These gargantuan blocks will overwhelm the United Reformed Church, Eagle Chambers and the old post office. This is only one corner, but it is indicative of the over-development of the whole site.

The Eden Quarter Brief, a master plan for the whole area, which showed much smaller buildings and more humane spaces, was passed by the council earlier in the year. It has been ignored by British Land. The project is too massive for the site and must be stopped. You can see the drawings at the library or on the council website. Your councillors and the development control department should hear your views.

The closing date for comments is December 17. Make time to write. Christmas is once a year, this is forever.

GEORGE ROME INNES
 Kingston

No runway

The unbelievable procrastination of David Cameron in, yet again, delaying the final decision not to build a third runway at Heathrow is beyond belief and must surely tick a negative box in our confidence in him.

The case, with so many reasons why it would be a disastrous thing to contemplate, has been well documented over and over again by Zac Goldsmith, as have reasons why it just is not needed in this area. How many more times does it need to be repeated when the facts make it so obvious?

There will always be people who argue the opposing view, these being those who think they can make their own fortunes regardless of consequences. I feel the public are not necessarily in a good position to make judgement on every aspect of these issues, but having lived in Zac Goldsmith's constituency I think we have every reason to trust his judgement.

How dare David Cameron even contemplate inflicting this on us, and going against the level of opposition there is to it? Is he really going to allow a Chinese-owned business to spoil our wonderful London, and does he really think we will just lie down and accept it if he did? Think again, Mr Cameron.

CHRISTINE ARNOLD
 Via email

Promenade

It is a shop window for Kingston. That is what a Kingston councillor has informed me the Queen's Promenade is. Then why does it not look like one?

The promenade is the walk along the river in Kingston where there are trip hazards, damaged signs, and overflowing bins. Also, it is where people have paid to have memorial benches installed in memory of their family and other loved ones. These benches are not maintained to a high standard.

If this is a shop window, should this not be looking its best?

DANIEL GODGER
 Via Email

Thanks for hearing my fireside tales

I would like to thank Kingston Guardian readers who visited Tolworth library in November for the launch of my book, Fireside Tales of Tolworth. Some people travelled long distances to attend.

I am grateful to those who responded to my appeal for pictures from Tolworth's past and was fortunate to receive some wonderful black-and-white photos showing family life, street scenes and

characters from Tolworth's past, in addition to class photos from Tolworth Central (Boys) School and Tolworth Girls' School.

MARK DAVISON
 Via email



Peter Fairchild @peterf17: @lanD-George it took 6 months but graffiti now removed from Tolworth roundabout subway – if you helped to get this done thank you

Simply living with multiple sclerosis is exhausting

My thanks to this week's author Anthony Anderson who has had 5 Thoughts about multiple sclerosis.

1. There is no cure. If you want to suggest a cure to me, please don't. It's not because I don't appreciate the thought; and it's not because I don't want to get well. If there was something that cured MS we would know about it.

2. I have to wear a catheter all day, every day. I wear a condom, connected to a bag on my leg, as the muscles in my bladder don't work and are not under my control.

One morning I asked my wife "Have you just washed the floor here?"

5 THOUGHTS OF THE WEEK...

"No?" she queried.
 "Then I've just wet myself", I said, standing in a puddle of my own urine. I hadn't even noticed that my bladder had let go of its own accord.

3. Spasticity. It feels like I've got a diver's boot on one leg. Try this out for yourself. Put a lead weight on one ankle (a diver's belt will do) and a roller skate on the other. Try to balance using a walking stick. Give it a while to get used to

tottering around with the weighted leg while the other foot tries to fly away from under you.

4. It is an invisible disease. Having an invisible disability means things change before I realise that they have done so. Just because you can't see the changes doesn't mean they aren't there.

5. Spasms. A leg will start twitching uncontrollably. I can sit on the sofa watching TV or asleep at night and it feels like someone has just attached a car battery to me. One eye twitches back and forth as I read a newspaper or book or I'm crossing the road.

All this amounts to is that I am doing

a massive amount of work just existing, before I start actually doing anything. And it's exhausting.

So, if I lose my temper from time to time you will know why. Because this is how I feel all the time.

But do you want to know what really amazes me?

Not once, in six years, has my wife ever talked about leaving me.

To my wife, I say THANK YOU.

ANTHONY ANDERSON

Send in your 5THOUGHTS by email to aparkes@london.newsquest.co.uk.

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THIS WEEK'S REASONS TO GO OUT

MUSIC Carols by Candlelight at Landmark Arts Centre, Teddington, from 7.30pm on Saturday. Start the week leading up to Christmas with an evening of seasonal music with local choirs and Surrey Brass. Mulled wine and mince pies available. Tickets cost £13 or £12

concessions and £5 under 16s. Go to landmarkartscentre.org.

PANTO Dick Whittington at Old Sorting Office Community Arts Centre, Barnes, until Sunday. The OSO Panto Players return with a show packed with audience participation, heroes and villains – plus toys and tuck for the kids and mince pies and mulled wine for adults. Go to osoarts.org.uk.

MUSIC Lande Yo, El Morgan and Kelly

Kemp at The Cricketers, Kingston, from 8pm on Monday. The trio of solo artists will all perform acoustic sets at the pay-what-you-can gig organised by Banquet Records. Go to banquetrecords.com.

OUTDOORS

A Handmade Christmas: Buds and Berries at Ham House from 10.30am to 2.45pm on Friday. Learn how to make stunning, natural decorations for your home using winter greenery. The session costs £42 and includes a light lunch. Go to

nationaltrust.org.uk/hamhouse.

FESTIVE Winters Tail at Chessington World of Adventures from 10am to 4pm until Christmas Eve, then Boxing Day to January 4. The resort's Christmas attraction is back with a massive tree in its Market Square, market stalls and Santa's grotto. On top of that, the zoo's open with its meerkats, tigers, gorillas, penguins and more. Tickets cost from £12. For more information, go to chessington.com.

Vibe



In the Heart of the Sea tells the true story of the fight for survival which inspired Herman Melville's *Moby Dick*. **JIM PALMER** caught up with the film's stars.

Audiences have grown fairly used to the star of a movie going to extreme lengths for a role, but how many times has a whole cast done so?

In Oscar-winning director Ron Howard's *In the Heart of the Sea* – the true story of the sinking of the whaleship in 1820 which inspired Herman Melville's *Moby Dick* – the actors were required to look emaciated and starved for scenes where they had been stranded at sea.

And so, after building themselves up to the buff physiques of professional sailors, they went on a gruelling diet and lost a substantial amount of weight.

Cillian Murphy, who starred in *28 Days Later*, plays the Essex's second mate, Matthew Joy.

He says: "Ron told us he wanted to do this and wanted to do it as authentically as possible and the thing about it is at the beginning we were on this regime to bulk up and we were in the gym. Everyone felt fantastic and looked fantastic. We were getting these amazing breakfasts and lunches and dinners and then it all came to an end and we had to begin the other half of the film."

"Normally on a film like this you might send the actors off and say go away and come back when you're emaciated but with this we had to do it while we were shooting. So we dropped dramatically. Then inevitably, when you get loads of men together, it gets competitive."

As his co-star Tom Holland, explained, the experience brought them closer: "When you get 21 guys and say 'sorry you can't eat for six weeks' they are obviously going to get on together," he says.

"The weight loss accelerated our

relationship to a point where we are all very close and it really did help us throughout the film because these men would have had relationships that are pretty unbreakable."

The film's lead, Thor star Chris Hemsworth, adds: "It was unlike anything I had ever done before. It was like being part of a football team back in high school or something."

Inevitably, the lack of food was a struggle and affected the actors but that again was a positive as far as the cast was concerned.

Benjamin Walker, who plays the ship's captain, says: "It's easier to seem exhausted and hungry when you are exhausted and hungry."

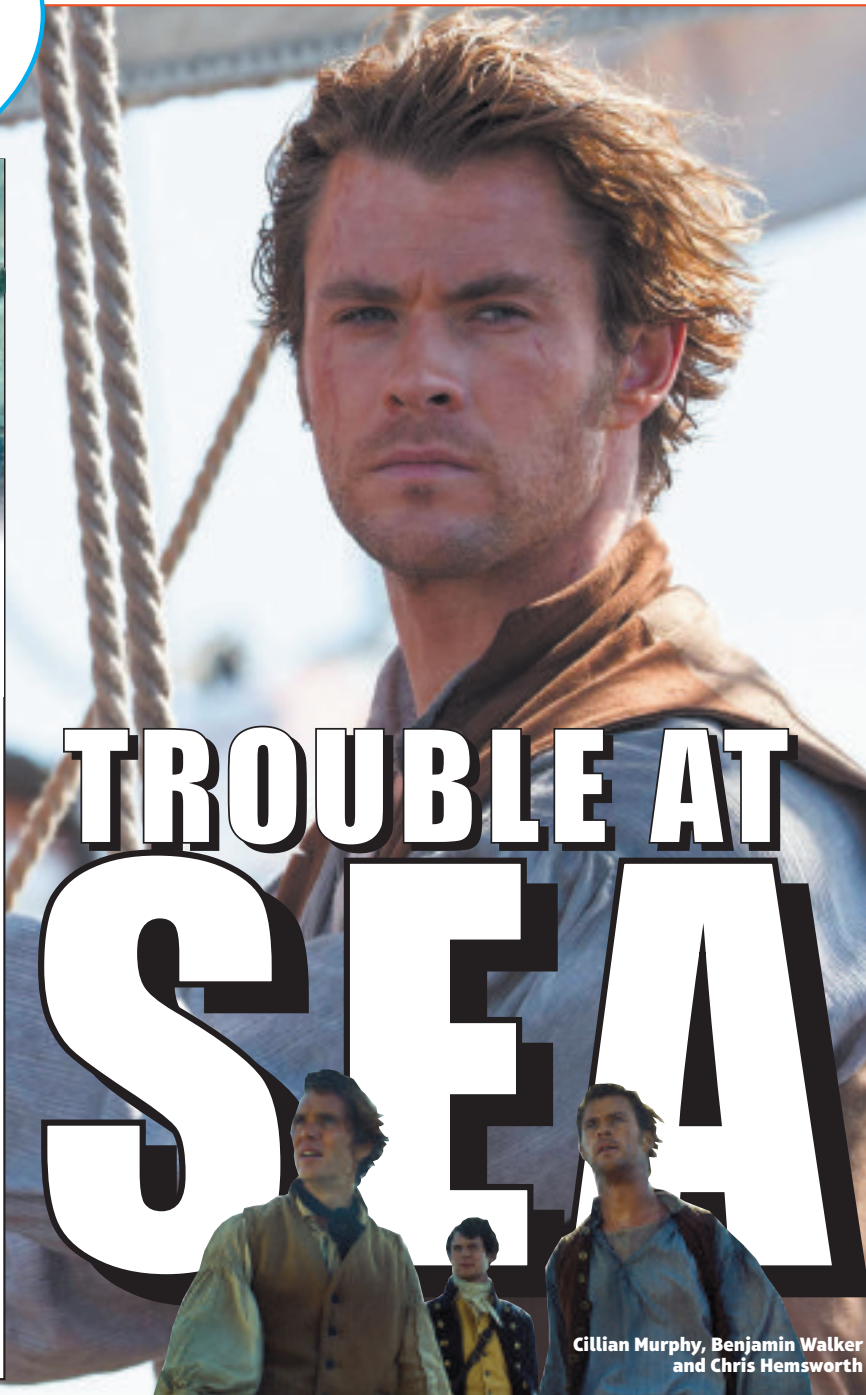
At the heart of it all was a great script, based on the book by Nathaniel Philbrick, and a director in Howard that many of the cast were desperate to work with.

Murphy says: "He did push us but he does it with such grace and he's such a warm individual. The director is like your general, your leader, you have to trust him and you want to realise his vision. The director sets the atmosphere, particularly for a film like this. We all wanted to do whatever Ron was asking of us because we all love his films and we all mad about him as a person."

In the Heart of the Sea (12A) is in cinemas December 26.

● Read the full story, including interviews with Ron Howard and the film's producers now at kingstonguardian.co.uk/vibe. We spoke to *In the Heart of the Sea* and new *Spider-Man* star Tom Holland, who grew up in Kingston, about how his life has changed. Pick up your Surrey Comet tomorrow.

TROUBLE AT SEA



Cillian Murphy, Benjamin Walker and Chris Hemsworth



STAR WARS BATTLEFRONT

TECH TALK

Christmas is the time for tech and toys. Simon Bull tested out some popular picks before you splash the cash.

Star Wars Battlefront, on PS4, Xbox One and PC: If the mission was to create a fast, fun, fan's dream of a Star Wars game it has been accomplished with the arrival of Battlefront. Wild action in authentic settings, it put the glow in this particular fan's lightsaber. It's mainly a multi-player, mostly online, shooter – rooted in the original trilogy, where you can play as the likes of Luke Skywalker, Han Solo and Darth Vader. Battlefront isn't about playing a video game, it's about being in Star Wars. And if that awakens the Force in you, grab your blaster. ★★★★★

The Recreated ZX Spectrum, £99.95: If you have a yearning for something retro, this

recreation of the original 1980s platform could be your product of the year. It looks almost identical to the old machine, but gone are the screeching noises, cassettes and loading times. There are about 40 games but sadly not some of our favourites like Jetpac and Atic Atac (though they may be added later). Some have stood the test of time better than others. ★★★★★

Anki Overdrive, approx £150: This is like Scalextric in that you still lay a track out on your living room or bedroom floor and race cars around it, but there are a host of changes and improvements, such as virtual weapons and smartphone controls. It may be expensive but this hybrid of Scalextric and MarioKart, racing and combat, older ideas and new technology, virtual and physical worlds is fresh and exciting. ★★★★★

The force has awoken and Star Wars is back with a welcome return for some old faces and introductions for some new.

Among the most high-profile names joining Han Solo, Luke Skywalker and Princess Leia in a galaxy far, far away is stormtrooper Finn, played by John Boyega.

We're here to bring you up to hyperspeed with the star who has become a familiar face on our screens, magazines and toys this Christmas.

GROWING UP: John Boyega was born in Peckham on March 17, 1992, which makes him 23 years old.

His dad, Samson, is a pentecostal preacher and his mum, Abigail, works with disabled people.

He attended Oliver Goldsmith Primary School, then Westminster City School.

From ages of nine to 14, he was a member of Theatre Peckham. He later trained at Identity School of Acting in Hackney.

After school, Boyega went to South Thames College in Wandsworth to study performing arts and played the lead in Othello in 2010.

IN STAR WARS: In Star Wars Episode VII – The Force Awakens, Boyega plays Finn, a character described on the official Star Wars website as "a trained warrior desperate to escape his past, Finn is plunged into adventure as his conscience drives him down a heroic path".

We know he is a stormtrooper so we can only imagine he sees

OUT OF THIS WORLD

the error of the ways of the ruling First Order (the new trilogy's version of the Empire) and joins the rebellion, which may or may not be led by Princess Leia.

In the movie's trailer, we see an out-of-breath Finn taking off his helmet, saying: "I was raised to do one thing. I've got nothing to fight for."

In a later clip from a TV spot, he says: "You don't know what I've seen. We all need to run."

From the footage, he's firmly on the side of the goodies – we see him running from danger with fellow newcomer Daisy Ridley's Rey, holding a blaster as Oscar Isaac's Poe Dameron jumps out of an X-Wing, standing side-by-side with Chewbacca and Han Solo and wielding a lightsaber against stormtroopers and wannabe Darth Vader, Kylo Ren.

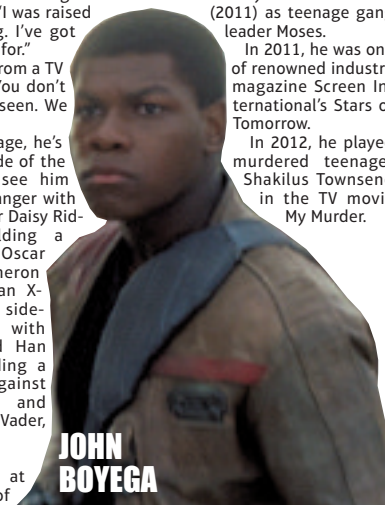
CAREER: While at Identity School of

Acting, he appeared in Six Parties at the National Theatre and Category B at the Tricycle Theatre.

Prior to Star Wars, his big break came in south London set sci-fi comedy Attack the Block (2011) as teenage gang leader Moses.

In 2011, he was one of renowned industry magazine Screen International's Stars of Tomorrow.

In 2012, he played murdered teenager Shakilus Townsend in the TV movie My Murder.



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Rooms with a view

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Don't go to a Viewing Alone: The more pairs of eyes you have available when looking around it's important to use your property viewing time effectively, otherwise you could end up missing something that will cost you dearly or make you regret your decision in the long run. Here are some tips to ensure you have a successful property viewing:

Don't go to a Viewing Alone: The more pairs of eyes you have available when looking around a property the better. If you go to a viewing alone then you will most likely just be led around by the estate agent, listening to them tell you about all the great features a property has.

Even if you are planning on buying a house alone, take a friend or family

member with you to any viewings you have, and ask them to keep their eyes peeled for any red flags they spot when walking around the property. Just having two different opinions on a house can make a real difference to your decision.

View the Inside and Outside: At the start of the viewing the estate agent will usually take you through the front door and show you around the inside of the house before going back out the way you came in. When buying a house it's important to get a thorough look at the outside too. Ask to see the garden, and if possible walk around the entire exterior of the property to check the walls, roof, pipes, and drainage - if you spot any problems think about how expensive they could be to fix. If you do like the house, then you may want to arrange a professional survey to get a real assessment of the situation.

Take Your Time: It's an exciting process buying a house, but it's important to not book too many viewings

into a small time frame, as the last thing you want is to feel rushed while looking around your potential dream home. You should give yourself between 20 and 30 minutes to view the inside of the property, and a further 20 minutes to look around the outside and walk around the area. Tell the estate agent at the start that you want to take your time looking around, and don't let them rush you.

Don't Think of it as Your Home: It's really important that you leave any emotion at the door when viewing a property, as it is hard to have an objective opinion of a place if you

already feel some attachment towards it. Of course it's nice to walk into a house and immediately be able to imagine yourself living there, but you shouldn't walk around willing yourself to like a property, you need to make sure everything is right with it.

View at Different Times of the Day: If you like a house and are considering buying it, then it's a good idea to have more than one viewing. Book one viewing for the daytime and one for the evening, as it will allow you to see how light the property is at different times of the day.

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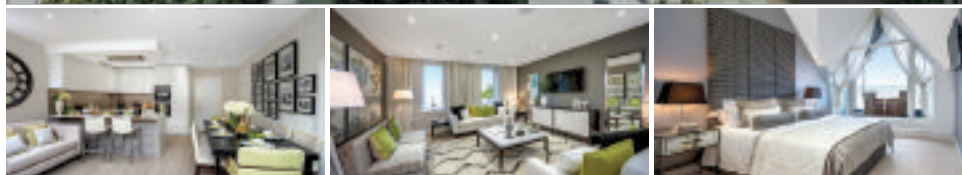
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Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984

The A3 GLA Road (Kingston By-Pass and Hook Rise South, Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames) (Temporary 30 M.p.h Speed Limit and Prohibition of Traffic and Stopping) Order 2016

1. Transport for London hereby gives notice that it intends to make the above named Traffic Order under section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 for the purpose specified in paragraph 2. The effect of the Order is summarised in paragraph 3.
2. The purpose of the Order is to enable safety improvement works to take place on Hook Rise South
3. The effect of the Order will be to prohibit any vehicle from:
 - a) exceeding a speed of 30 M.P.H on the westbound carriageway of A3 Kingston By-Pass between a point opposite the extended eastern kerb-line of Oakcroft Road and the extended common boundary of Nos. 355 and 357 Hook Rise South;
 - b) entering or exiting Hook Rise South from Elmcroft Drive;
 - c) exiting Fullers Way South at its junction with Hook Rise South;
 - d) stopping on Hook Rise South between the the extended common boundary of Nos. 319 and 321 Hook Rise South and Hook Road.

The Order will be effective between 12:01 AM on 15th January 2016 until 11:59 PM on 18th July 2016 or when those works have been completed, or when the works have been completed whichever is the sooner. The prohibitions will apply only during such times and to such extent as shall from time to time be indicated by traffic signs.

4. The prohibitions will not apply in respect of:
 - (1) any vehicle being used for the purposes of those works or for fire brigade, ambulance or police purposes;
 - (2) anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform or a person authorised by Transport for London.
5. At such times as the prohibition is in force an alternative route will be indicated by traffic signs.
 - (1) For Elmcroft Drive - via Hook Rise South, Hook Road, Elmcroft Drive
 - (2) For Fullers Way South via Fullers Way South, Hunters Road, Priory Road, Hook Road

Dated this 17th day of December 2015

Mufu Durowoju

Network Impact Management Team Manager

Road Space Management - Operations, Transport for London
Palestra, 197 Blackfriars Road, London, SE1 8NJ

Transport for London

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984

The A3 GLA Road (Robin Hood Way, Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames) (Temporary Prohibition of Traffic) Order 2016

1. Transport for London hereby gives notice that it intends to make the above named Traffic Order under section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 for the purpose specified in paragraph 2. The effect of the Order is summarised in paragraph 3.
2. The purpose of the Order is to enable carriageway maintenance repair works to take place on A3 Robin Hood Way northbound off-slip towards Coombe Lane Flyover eastbound.
3. The effect of the Order will be to prohibit any vehicle from entering or proceeding on the unnamed off-slip road linking the northbound carriageway of A3 Robin Hood Way with the westbound carriageway of Coombe Lane West.

This Order will be effective between 18th January 2016 and 26th January 2016 every Monday 10:00 PM until Tuesday 5:00 AM, or when the works have been completed whichever is the sooner. The prohibitions will apply only during such times and to such extent as shall from time to time be indicated by traffic signs.

4. The prohibitions will not apply in respect of:
 - (1) Any vehicle being used for the purposes of those works or for fire brigade, ambulance or police purposes;
 - (2) Anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform or a person authorised by Transport for London.
5. At such times as the prohibitions are in force an alternative route will be indicated by traffic signs via A3 Robin Hood Way, Roehampton Vale, Stag Lane, Roehampton Vale, Robin Hood Way to normal route of travel.

Dated this 17th day of December 2015

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Network Impact Management Team Manager

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Palestra, 197 Blackfriars Road, London, SE1 8NJ

Coombe Boys' School Headteacher: Mr David Smith

PA to Headteacher

Required to start March 2016

Grade: H34 - 39 (FTE £31,368 - £35,655) pro rata to £28,834 - £32,775

Hours: 36 hours per week, term time plus two weeks

Due to the retirement of the present postholder we are looking for a PA to the Headteacher. The successful candidate will provide high quality HR and administrative support to the Headteacher, assisting with recruitment and managing all HR matters. Some flexibility in hours would be required to accommodate school events.

Coombe Boys' is a popular and highly successful non-selective 11 - 18 school that is federated with its partner girls' school to comprise the Coombe Secondary Schools Academy Trust, based in New Malden, Surrey. Coombe Boys' has approximately 800 students on roll, including a mixed sixth form.

For details of the post and an application form please visit our website: www.coombeboyschool.org

Completed application forms should be returned to: hhowell1@coombe.org.uk

Closing date: 6th January 2016 at 9am

No agencies

No CVs

The successful applicant will be required to undertake an Enhanced DBS Disclosure
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Public Notices

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

IN BANKRUPTCY

KINGSTON-UPON-THAMES COUNTY COURT

NO 923 of 2008 RE: JOHN ROBERT JAMES FEHERTY

As of the date of bankruptcy order, a Carpenter, residing at 140a Laleham Road, Shepperton, Middlesex TW17 0AX and lately of 1 Beverley Road, Sunbury-on-Thames, Surrey TW16 6NF.

D.O.B: 24 August 1970

I intend to pay within four months from 20th January 2016 (being the last day of proving) the first and final dividend of 2.96 p/c.

Creditors who have not yet proved their debts must do so by 20th January 2016 (being last day of proving) otherwise they will be excluded from the dividend. The required proof of debt form is available on the Insolvency Service website (www.bis.gov.uk/insolvency, select "Forms" and then form 6.37). Alternatively, you can contact my office at the address below to supply a form.

A Oliver, Official Receiver and trustee, LTADT, PO Box 4376, Companies House, Crown Way, Cardiff CF14 8JX. Tel: 029 2038 0178 e-mail: RTLU.SouthWest@insolvency.gsi.gov.uk

BRIAN JAMES BEEDHAM (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of Flat 301 190-196 Coombe Lane West Kingston Upon Thames KT2 7EQ, who died on 11/05/2015, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 26/02/2016, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

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The Croydon Guardian has launched its all new Cars page where customers can find incredible offers on local used cars. Our new website offers a unique way of finding you the perfect next car by compiling and comparing the best offers from trusted car dealers in south-west London.

How it works:

1) Browse deals. Scroll through the best used car deals from trusted local dealerships. Use our search by budget feature to get the best used car deal within your budget. Our deals are kept up to date in real time, so as soon as one of their cars is sold it's replaced with another great deal!

2) Search. Already know the car

you want? If you're in the market for a specific car kingstonguardian.co.uk/cars will display the best deals for that model from trusted local dealerships.

3) Save. We know the importance of getting the best deal and saving money when buying your next car. Once you have found the right deal, you will be lead directly to that car on the dealer's website for all the information you need about that car.

The new Cars page aims to change the car buying experience for customers by focusing on three aspects:

DEALS – Need to buy a car quickly or on a tight budget? Want to know what the best deal you can get for

your money is? kingstonguardian.co.uk/cars gathers all the best discounted cars, clearance stock and special deals in one place.

The website compiles and compares offers from car dealerships all across south-east London to ensure you find the best deal.

LOCAL HUB – Buying locally is safer and more convenient. It means it's easy for you to check the car out and test drive before purchasing, and avoiding delivery charges. Buying local also means you can take the car back easily should you have any problems with it after you've bought it.

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- We will try to satisfy an advertiser's request regarding the positioning of an advertisement, but no guarantee of position can be given unless agreed by us and paid for at the rate then current.

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- We are not liable for any error, misprint or non-appearance of an advertisement unless caused by our negligence, in which case the

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Hard struggle awaits Kingston

Kingston RFC's perennial battle against the Surrey Division One drop shows no sign of being avoided this season.

Head coach Matt Hawkes' strugglers lost a crunch game at derby rivals Old Emanuel 18-15 on Saturday.

The Hook Road outfit, with only three wins this season, are now second from bottom in the table and seven points adrift of third-bottom Old Emanuel.

For a video of Saturday's game visit kingstonguardian.co.uk/sport.

More sport: kingstonguardian.co.uk



Morgan's arrival at Ks is key

The capture of former Hendon striker Aaron Morgan gives Kingstonian boss Tommy Williams more options up front than he has ever had, writes *Stuart Amos*.

Morgan, who signed for the Kingsmeadow club last week, was handed his debut in last Saturday's 3-1 win over Merstham.

Williams' men won 2-0 at Staines Town on Saturday – thanks to goals from Ricky Sappleton and Malachi Hudson – meaning they have now netted 40 times in 23 league games this term.

But the does not mean the manager is happy with his lot.

"As soon as Aaron became available I brought him in," he said.



New face: Aaron Morgan has many strings to his bow for Kingstonian

"He was a key part of a successful Hendon side last season and I have been watching him for a while.

"He gives us lots of options going forward because he can fill several roles – through the middle, out wide or in the hole behind the strikers.

"This is the strongest squad I have had since I've been here. A strong squad will win the league this year, not just a starting 11."

He added: "I'm pleased with where we are, but we have a tough winter ahead."

Meanwhile, AFC Wimbledon's proposed move back to Plough Lane was given the go ahead by Merton council last week, leaving Ks future in the balance.

The Dons are expected to complete the sale of Kingsmeadow to Chelsea to help fund the project, which will leave Kingstonian homeless.

The club is most likely to enter a groundshare agreement in the short term while they search for a permanent home in the borough.

Full story on page 5



Sbihi smashes Olympic legend's indoor record

Great effort: Moe Sbihi in action in Stratford, above, and talking to the media, right

Anthony Cullen

Surbiton's Moe Sbihi wrote himself into British rowing history by breaking Sir Matthew Pinsent's 11-year-old British indoor 2km record on Saturday.

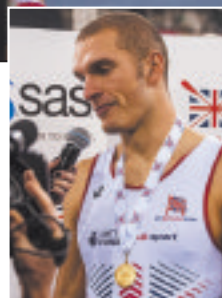
The 27-year-old former Hollyfield School student clocked five minutes 41.8 seconds for the distance on an

ergometer at the Olympic velodrome in Stratford.

Sbihi, a bronze medallist at the London 2012 Olympics and current world men's eight champion, said: "It's a big record and it's stood for quite a long time, so I'm delighted to have broken it especially as we are in an

Olympic season.

He added: "It is a great atmosphere and a wonderful event here. It's such a good place to have set the record. Indoor rowing is now a massive bit of our sport. The machines are the same in gyms around the world and it's growing and growing."



IT'S ALL OVER: Casuals' Trophy KO leaves promotion the goal

Sky the limit for Casuals



Lords are leaping: Casuals' Sekou Kaba enjoys celebrating his equaliser, but his team would go on to lose 2-1 to Hungerford Town

Stuart Tree

SPORTS EDITOR
STUART AMOS

samos@
london.newsquest.co.uk



Corinthian Casuals assistant manager Dan Pringle says there is no telling what the club could achieve this term.

The King George's Field outfit crashed out of the FA Trophy on Saturday thanks to a narrow 2-1 first round proper defeat to Southern League Premier Division Hungerford Town.

It signalled the end of the club's best ever showing in the competition and their exit leaves them to focus on their Ryman Division One South ambitions.

Boss James Bracken's side are 13th in the table with 23 games still to play and Pringle believes they are capable of closing the seven point gap to the division's top five.

"We've still got big ambitions for the league. There are plenty of games left to achieve those," he said.

"From this cup run, you've



Jump to it: Casuals defender Terry Murray jumps highest against Hungerford Town

Stuart Tree

seen that when it comes to big games, every single one of the players can step up to the plate.

"There's no one we fear in the league. On our day, we can beat anyone.

"We've beaten two top quality teams from the league above, who are both going to be in and around the play-offs themselves.

"If we can emulate this trophy run, then we'll go on and do big things in the league.

"We play entertaining football and the players are enjoying it.

"The players we've got in the squad are young and hungry. They're not past it. They can do anything."

Casuals are at Whitstable Town on Saturday.

Knock up with the Duchess

Young table tennis star Marcus Giles had a fixture by royal appointment as he played doubles with the future King and Queen of England, writes *Matthew Tisdale*.

Kingston's Giles teamed up with the Duchess of Cambridge, while fellow young star Denise Payet partnered the Duke of Cambridge for a special mixed doubles encounter during a SportsAid event last week.

Both athletes are supported by SportsAid and were attending a charity event hosted by markets brokers ICAP in London, where they took to the table.

Hollyfield School pupil Giles, 17, said: "It was an honour playing with the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. They were both pretty good and we managed to get a few decent rallies going.

"The Duchess asked me about my table tennis career, how I started and the support SportsAid give to me."



Hello, ma'am: Marcus Giles, right, speaks to the Duchess of Cambridge

SPORTSbrief

FOOTBALL: A 4-1 Combined Counties League Premier Division defeat at AFC Hayes made it a seventh defeat in a row for Chessington & Hook United on Saturday. They head to Redhill in the league this week before completing their 2015 schedule with a trip to Raynes Park Vale on December 28.

PARKRUN: Cardiff Athletics Club's Rowan Axe set a new personal best of 15 minutes five seconds to win the Bushy Park parkrun on Saturday. Sutton & District 15-year-old Olivia Stillman clocked 19:03 to be the first female to finish in 28th.

SWIMMING: Kingston Royals head coach Damien Bryan will head to Lord's Cricket Ground on January 21 after being nominated for the coach of the year gong at the London Sport Awards.

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Available in an oak finish. It has a strong slatted base and can be converted into two separate single beds. Mattresses sold separately.



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